"A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

A History of the
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
of Hamburg, Ashley County, Arkansas
-1981-

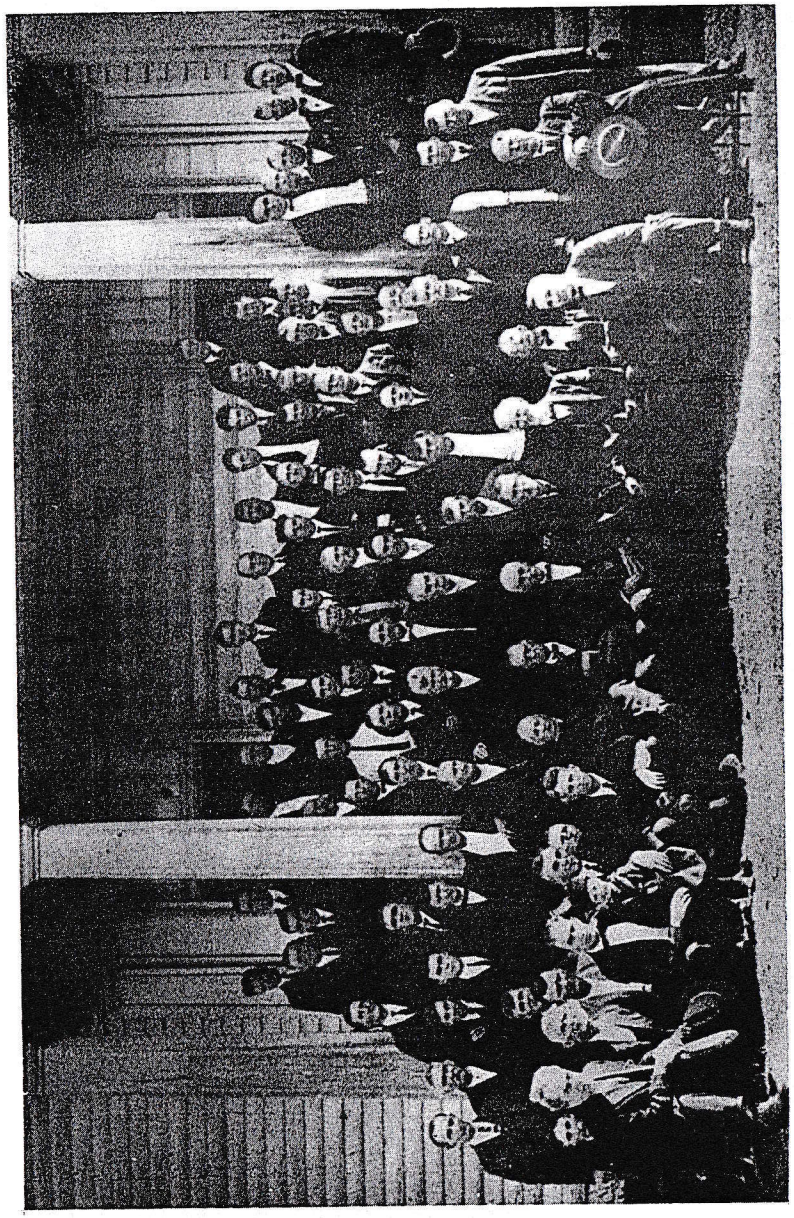
by Mary Imogene Noble Carpenter
assisted by Robert A. Carpenter
cover drawing by Robert A.

DEDICATION

Through love, I dedicate this effort, humbly to Jesus. May somehow it glorify HIM.

Imie Noble Carpenter
Vice-Regent Colonel Francis Vivian
Brookings Chapter of the Daughters
of the American Revolation....
servant of the Lord

MEN'S BIBLE CLASS APRIL 6,1958 EASTER SUNDAY



MEN'S BIBLE CLASS 1923

"A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing; Our helper He, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing... We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to triumph thro' us;...God's truth abideth still, His Kingdom is forever."[1]

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in time of trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed...The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Be still and know that I am God. I will be exalted in the earth. The Lord of hosts is with us. He Is our refuge.[2]

On Sunday evening, April 8, 1979 the First Baptist Church was filled to capacity, anticipating an experience of worship through music. As minutes passed, the program was beginning to be presented, fear descended in nature's winds of a tornado. As the power failed - instead of screams and confusion - amid the howling winds.....voices, meekly at first and then boldly began to sing "Jesus loves me this I know..." and once again God's Church prevailed and was THE ROCK that held fast! And thus, the First Baptist Church of Hamburg was, and has been, since its beginning in 1859 a mighty fortress to shelter and strengthen its people spiritually and physically unceasingly day by day by day and forever.

On November 30, 1848 an act of the Seventh Session of the General Assembly of the state of Arkansas created Ashley County. In October of 1849 the county seat of Hamburg was set up on forty acres of land that had been donated to the county for the formation of a county seat and county government. This was accomplished at the first Ashley County Court presided over by William E. Willis at Fountain Hill, then the seat of justice. This was located in Isaac Denton's home east of Fountain Hill. Commis-

1 "A Mighty Fortress is Our God." Martin Luther 1529. Frederick M. Hedge 1853.

2 Psalms 46

sioners George N. Denton, John W. P. Doyle and Thomas C. Denson were appointed by this Ashley County Court to lay off the town of Hamburg. These commissioners brought with them the first surveyor of Ashley County, D. D. Sims. Sims was twenty four years old and his wife Frances was nineteen. Their baby was one month old. Sims, with the commissioners, surveyed and laid off the original survey of the town of Hamburg.[3]

The survey found the center of the county for the location of the county seat town. This fell in the middle of the Tcheminahaut Creek, thus the town was established slightly west of the center on dryer ground.[4]

In 1850 there were four Baptist churches in Ashley County. There were 600 Baptists. These four churches were: Flat Creek at Fountain Hill, Mt. Zion, Egypt and Beech Creek.[5]

In April of 1850 the Ashley County Court ordered the construction of a courthouse and jail. On December 14, 1854 the city of Hamburg was incorporated. Five years later, in 1859, when the town was growing rapidly, the Baptists organized and built the First Baptist Church. This church was built on the lot where the home of Robert A. and Imie Carpenter is now located. The building faced what is now Cherry Street and was located toward the back of the lot. The site of the well they used is near the gazebo on the Carpenter's back lawn. Bricks that were used for walks are still dug up in their backyard. In Hamburg, as it always is - in man's progress - first came the building of homes and then the churches' constructions.

Reverend John S. Wood said when he first came to Arkansas in 1844 the county was a wilderness, roads were trails and bridges were unknown. The first church services were held in the woods. The first Sunday School that he assisted in its organizing was at Hamburg in 1855. People came to this Sunday School from a radius of 10-12 miles. The morals of the settlers were excellent. Reverent Wood had been a resident for three years before he ever saw a drunk man.[6]

3 History of the First Baptist Church, September 16, 1956 by Y. W. Etheridge and Carl W. Locke.

4 Frank Green, father of Lucille Bradney and Marie Wilson, longtime surveyor for Ashley County.

5 W. W. Nutt, former member of Beech Creek Church

6 Goodspeed's History of South Arkansas

There are two verions of how Hamburg was named. One is that settlers came to this area from Hamburg, South Carolina, which was named for Hamburg, Germany. As they settled this section they named it, once again, Hamburg. This version came from an early Riley merchant. The other version is that hunters killed a deer with huge hams. Holding them up they said, "This place should be named Ham-burg." And thus it was!

Now Cherry Street was originally main street. It was called the Post Road and ran from Arkansas Post all the way down to New Orleans. It meandered from Arkansas Post around through where Martinville now is and down the present Cherry Street through Wilcoxon Forest and on to Louisiana. After the 1850's and the building of the courthouse the businesses moved away from the Post Road. This explains why the original churches faced our Cherry Street. Also along here was and is the historic Presbyterian Church, organized May, 1859. The Catholic Church was on the now empty lot south of the telephone office beside Mrs. Frank Wilson's home. The early Methodist Church was located at the present church's location and is the third building located here.

The first church building (located on the property where the Robert A. Carpenter home is now) was constructed of logs. The log church house was 40' x 50' with two doors and two windows. There were split logs for seats with no backs. There was no pastor in the years 1873-74 and the church house was used for a school while the old public school building was being repaired. The second church building at this same place was of lumber. The first church building at our present location was about where the older education building is now and this church faced Mulberry Street. This lot was bought in 1875. It was built in 1875-76 and was a pretentious church house. It faced toward the west and had a porch across the front with a large square column at each outside corner.[7] The floor was sloping so that everyone present could easily see the preacher. At the front on a low platform was the pastor's rostrum and the organ which was placed in front of the choir.

7 Charles F. Carpenter, Sr. has a large photograph of this church building.

Nehemiah Knight, a carpenter of Hamburg, built this neat church house by hand. Every foot of lumber was dressed by hand. This church had a tall steeple with a large gold ball and weathervane on the tip. The baptistry was down front. It was the finest church building of any denomination in Ashley County. Children thought it was magnificent.[8] Lydia Linder Carpenter's grandfather, J. H. Riley, helped in this construction as did Charles F. Carpenter's grandfather, John Carpenter.

Sunday School classes were held all over the church. Naturally this was a loud period of teaching as each teacher had to speak loudly to be heard over the other teachers. There were three sections of rows of seats in this building. The men usually sat on the first seats to the right. The young people sat in the middle and the ladies on the section to the left. Husbands and wives could sit together, if they liked. The rolls of the Baptist Church contained the pioneers of Ashley County. The census of 1850, the first one after Ashley County was organized, contains many of the same names. Found on each record are the following names: Byrd, Boyd, Allen, Barnett, Bell, Boyett, Brady, Bond, Carter, Collins, Curtis, Deal, Denson, Riley, Downey, Hays, Hill, Lindsey, Long, Hathaway, Noble, Savage, Shelton, Sawyer, Sheiron, Sims, Slocum, Smith, Stanely, Stuart, Thompson, Venters, Wilkerson, Wallace, Watkins, White, Williams and Willis. Noticeably, the Carpenters are missing since at this time Berea was a thriving community. When in 1859 the Hamburg Baptist Church was organized, Rev. W. W. Woods was its first pastor. The charter members are: Sam Waldrip and wife Susie, J. V. B. Waldrip, Caroline Waldrip, Mandy Waldrip, Oliver Files and wife Nancy, A. W. Files and Nancy Files Miller.[9]

8 Mrs. W. B. Rolfe, Church member for 57 years, at note burning services October 6, 1856.

9 Fly leaf of an early church record, September 26, 1922, Y. W. Etheridge, Clerk.

The pastors listed were from 1876 until 1913: The Reverends W. W. Woods, Ben Hyatt, J. D. Rasberry, A. J. Fawcett, J. B. Wise, R. A. Lee, J. V. B. Waldrip, H. A. Munn, W. A. Gunter, G. D. Moore, T. W. Adams, Pat Henry, Rev. Taylor, N. C. Denson, R. A. Gill, J.V. Stowell, and J. T. Fowlkes.[10]

Charles F. Carpenter, Sr., the church's oldest living male member, started coming to this church in 1899. He recalls Brother Fawcett as pastor; Thomas Compere as Sunday School Superintendent; teachers, Mrs. Graham and her daughter, Mrs. J. O. House, Mrs. Lizzie Kitchrell, Mrs. Penelope Ellis, Mrs. Ella Bunkley, Mrs. Pike Rolfe, Mr. and Mrs. L.W. Dew, E. D. Compere and Bill Allen, Mrs. Lindsey Dew's father. Mrs. Thomas Compere played the piano and Charles F. Carpenter rang the Sunday School bell in the early 1900's. Baptisms were held at the Nolley Brick Yard, which was located between West Washington and West Lincoln Streets.

In 1910 the pastor was paid $75.00 per month. In 1911 the records show that the church was behind $32.50 on the pastor's salary for the previous year. By 1920 the pastor was being paid $1,800 per year.

Mrs. Lindsey Dew's father, old time Baptist preacher and Ashley County representative to the legislature, Bill Allen, was well known for bumping on the floor with his walking cane when things weren't going to his satisfaction until finally stopping under the glares of the pastor. He died at 83. This is Trezevant Watson, Jr.'s great grandfather, Agnes Dew Watson's grandfather.

In 1859 the Baptist State Convention and the Arkansas Baptists were organized by Rev. P. S. G. Watson. The first act was aimed at creating a Baptist College for Males.Events were progressing with W. R. Trawick as fund chairman to raise $100,000.00. In the middle of the year $50,000.00 had been subscribed. Since this goal was never achieved, it is assumed that the Civil War, which began in 1860, engaged the minds and efforts of the people and prevented the realization of the Baptist College for Males. As Ashley County developed, sawmills, stave and box factories, and planing mills came to Hamburg. The Baptist State Convention became better organized. A new church building had been discussed

10 Church entry dated November 7, 1913 given to E. L. Compere by Dr. W. H. Lindsey, senior deacon of First Baptist Church.

since 1910 so finally by 1927, with a spirit of determination led by General Ebenezer Latimore (Jack) Compere, the construction of a brick church building facing East Parker Street was accomplished. This building was where our present Fellowship Hall is located.

The May 25, 1927 church minutes state that G.S. Nolley, father of Doris Nolley Jones, grandfather of Cris Jones, was selected to supervise the construction of the auditorium and Sunday School rooms and to purchase the materials. He did all of this free of charge. Jim Nolley, grandfather of Ida Nolley Campbell, worked with his brother. Progress and Growth was the church's watchword. By the year 1941 additional room was needed so a committee composed of D.D. Gardner, Carl Locke, Mrs. Bill Carpenter, Y. W. Etheridge, and Zack Boykin were appointed to begin with the planning for a church annex for education. Rev. Reese S. Howard, pastor, established a building committee of Carl Locke, Louie Shell and D. D. Gardner. The annex was soon occupied. It was dedicated on April 4, 1943. Martinville Baptist Mission was started in 1950 under the direction of Rev. Lowell Matheney. It later became a Southern Baptist Church in 1951.

During recent past years Joe Ed Chapman caused much merriment when he would become tired during a sermon and would stand up, stretch and yawn loudly and then meekly sit down. Naturally, he was loved by the younger church members.

Rev. E. E. Griever was pastor of First Baptist Church, Hamburg from September 15, 1951 until his retirement May 1, 1965, serving as pastor for the longest tenure.

Minutes of Ashley County Baptist Association reveal that during these years there were 358 additions by baptism and 550 by letter. Local expenditures amounted to approximately $550,000.00 and more than $100,000.00 was given to missions. He served as moderator of the Association for four years. The present auditorium and the building that houses the Nursery and Primary Departments and Offices were built during this time. The Church Baptistry was painted by Robert A. Carpenter and dedicated to the Lord in memory of Mrs. Albert Carpenter by her children. The older education wing was finished in 1964 and at that time was one of the most modern in the state convention. The Gardner Mission was started and instituted into a Southern Baptist Church under his leadership. From the time of his retirement until the Lord called him home, he was busy serving as a supply or interim pastor of various churches in this area.

Rev. Pat Mehaffey served the church as the first full-time Music and Education Director under Brother Griever. Verne E. Carpenter served later and completed a modernization of the church's records and attained State Sunday School excellence.

Pastors from 1914 until 1981 have been F. P. Turner, G. E. Holt, W. N. Roberts, Otto Mathis, C. H. Webb, T. J. Brooks, W. L. Leach, C. C. Young, Reese S. Howard, Ed F. McDonald, Jr., Stanley Jordan, David Moore, Lowell Matheney, E. E. Griever, Klois L. Hargis, Raymond C. Atwood and Thomas J. Cunningham, III.

During Rev. Hargis' years as pastor the church ran a Church Kindergarten. This was held in the older education wing and filled a definite need during this period. There were 179 baptisms and 220 other additions during his tenure as pastor.

Names found in the church minutes of the past and present include: Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Knight, John Gardner, Mrs. Allen Dew, Oscar Emory, Mr. & Mrs. Walter Pierce, Lena Woods, Mrs. Etta Wells, Obie Stover, Wiley Powell, Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Higginbotham, Sr., Mrs. H. D. Cammack, Lydia Linder Carpenter, Mrs. Ophelia Rodgers Green, Mrs.Agnes Etheridge, Mrs. Clyde Sullivan, Mrs. Allen Linder, Mr. & Mrs. Mack Sawyer, Horace Noble, Dr. Lindsey and his wife, Emma, Mrs. Waggoner, Mr. & Mrs. Gus Gammell, Harry Noble, Jimmie Linder, L. W. Dew, Carl W. Locke, Y. W. Etheridge, Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Riley, B. R. Smith, Thomas Compere, Jack Compere Charlie Sawyer, Mrs. J. O. Lindsey, Mrs. J. O. House, W. W. Nutt, Roger Nutt, Mrs. G. S. Nolley, Mrs. N. R. Taylor,Dobbin Taylor, Jack Carpenter, Raymond Carpenter, Floyd Wheat.*

Rev. C. C. Young served the church longer than most pastors. His wife became outstanding in her music, teaching younger members to play the piano. This was her mission.She accepted anything for pay. Her students became church pianists all over the county. Mrs. Young, being school Band Director, used orchestration at church worship services. Under Brother Young the church set up the plan of using the envelope method of financing. Rev. & Mrs. Young visited the Holy Land which was outstanding for this era. Rev. Reese S. Howard was especially commended for leading the church in paying off the church debt at that time. The church had a bus ministry during this time.

* No order to listing

Instrument players through the years have been Agnes Dew Watson, Georgia Chapman, Mary Ruth Chapman, Jo Ann and Dorothy Dunn, Doris Nolley Jones, Jo Ann Chapman Luebkeman, Freddie Bierbaum, Janet Ann Henderson Jackson, Diana Witham, Inez Harriman and now Pam LaGrone Smith. Choir leaders have been Mrs. H. D. Cammack and Mrs. Allen J. Linder. Assistant directors have been Raymond Carpenter, Billy Veazey, Allen Waldrup and Ben Choate Carpenter. Verne E. Carpenter was followed by Ed Witham, a talented music director. Also serving during this time was Harold Owen. The church is now blessed with Jim Burleson, who possesses a great musical talent of playing the piano and a beautiful voice for singing.

Numerous trips for the church memberships' enjoyment have been scheduled through the years, trips including Glorieta out west, entertainment centers such as Opryland, Six Flags, Magic Springs, Passion Play at Eureka Springs, Bellingrath Gardens and the recent ski experience to Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

Church membership services include the picking up of senior adults on Sunday morning and the active outreach enlistment program for church members unable to attend Sunday School and Church. Another valuable church contribution is the untiring efforts of the WMU to furnish food and meals at times of church members' deaths and sorrows.

Church secretaries have been Inez Harriman (Mrs. Morril), Betty Bunn Carlton (Mrs. Jimmy), Mrs. Marvin Bankston, Mrs. Polly Lochala (Mrs. Roddy), Sylvia Blocker, Patsy Noble McDougald (Mrs. Roger), Louise Sullivan Burnett, (Mrs. Joe), and now Bonnie Cope Farmer (Mrs. Glen).

Summer youth workers have been Joe Burnett, Mike Pierce, Richard Wade and Steve Mullin. A beloved interim pastor was Dr. Perry Claxton, retired pastor of the First Baptist Church of Greenville, Mississippi.

Outstanding Women's Missionary Union leaders have been Mrs. Nell Cammack, Mrs. Bill Carpenter, Mrs. Alma Henderson, Mrs. Allen Dew, Mrs. Bertie Bierbaum, Mrs. Harry Noble, Mrs. Helen Patrick, Mrs. Agnes Watson, Mrs. Maxine Murphy, Mrs. Bertha Rodgers and Mrs. Modell Bunn. The two adult men's Bible classes are named for past Christians, E. L. Compere and Carl W. Locke.

Without a dream a church perishes and with the determination and able abilities of pastor Raymond C. Atwood and with the Lord's blessings, the people of First Baptist Church were able to completely redecorate the sanctuary and vestibule of the church. A new education wing was added behind the auditorium featuring a Library and Choir practice room. The Library has been named the Rev. E. E. Griever Memorial Library and a portrait hangs here in Brother and Mrs. Griever's honor. Located between the buildings is the Noble Prayer Garden given in honor of Harry and Opal Noble by Imie, Robert A. and Robert Allen Carpenter.

New Baptist hymn books and pew Bibles have been placed in the sanctuary, each dedicated to loved ones, past and present. In 1976, silk flags of the United States and Christianity were placed behind the Choir honoring Charles F. and Lydia Carpenter. They were given in their honor by Robert A. and Imie Carpenter. A lovely golden mirror in the vestibule honors the memory of W. E. Tucker and was given by his family. Brass vases in the church are in memory of Bruce Smith, Maude and Floyd Harbison and Sawyer Goodwin. A silk bouquet of roses in the vestibule honors the memory of Susan Rush and was given by the W. L. Chester family. A poem written by Mary Lou Carpenter and given in her memory comforts one's heart as you wait in the entry of the church. Children Bible School paintings of the 12 apostles in the hallway between the church and the fellowship hall are the topics of interesting conversations as members stand in line for church dinners. Grown up artists doing these include Kayla Shell, Chris Kelley, Mike Farmer, Mark Douglas, Marilyn Harris, Tami Hill, Melissa Hennington, Lori Jackson and Cindy Chapman Rabb. Imie Carpenter promoted this with Rev. Klois Hargis seeing to the church's framing and Imie's hanging of these. Betty Bunn Carlton assisted in this. In the kitchen for church dinners can always be found Bertie Bierbaum, Reba Bierbaum and Elizabeth Woods Taylor. The piano in the Church Library was lovingly given in memory of Maude Harbison by her children Bill, Betty, Jim and Jean. The furnishings of the Griever Library was the most recent vigorous undertaking of the WMU. These furnishings were obtained from Carpenter's Home Supply at their cost, as has the Jack and Corene Carpenter family supplied much of the newer furnishings of the church and parsonage at their cost prices. This project was done during the tenure of Mrs. N. T. Watson, Sr. as WMU President.

Paintings in the vestibule of the church honor the memory of William Mack Greeson dying in World War II. The Church Bible was given in memory of Bruce Smith by Marguerite, Marsha and Bruce, Jr.

Under Rev. Atwood's direction a spacious pastor's home was built on East Parker Street. The 1980 Ashley County Baptist Association's yearly report listed it as the nicest parsonage in the Association.

Under Reverend Atwood's talent of direction and with the Lord's blessings, the church removed the old church building of 1927 and replaced it with our large, servicable fellowship hall and kitchen. Weekly family night suppers are enjoyed here. The hall has been such an asset for church wedding receptions, Sunday dinners at the church and class meetings and parties. A Church bus was also bought and a Bus Ministry evolved. Searcy Wilcoxon, Jr. can be remembered as helping in this. There were 123 additions by baptism and 220 other additions to the church. Committee persons serving with Reverend Atwood on these building projects were Ronnie LaGrone, Mrs. Robert A. Carpenter, Mrs. Jack Carpenter, Mrs. Nap Murphy, Mrs. Harry Noble, Sr., Roddy Lochala, S. A. Bunn, Jack Carpenter, Fred LaGrone, J.D. Rankin, C. B. Harriman, Willard Noble, Willie Claude Kelley, James Gabbie, Morril Harriman, W. T. Higginbotham, Jack Shell, Jimmy Murphy, James Stone, B. W. Allbritton, Jr. and Harry Noble, Sr. During this time Robert Allen Carpenter,Jr. followed in his grandfather Charlie Carpenter's footsteps by helping Buddy Griever ring the church bell on Sunday morning.

One amusing happening during a fund raising Sunday Service Ann Etheridge Veazey stood up and said, "Preacher, I hope you do not ask this church to buy the Queen Mary for , sure as the world, we'd raise the money and do it, and where in the world would we ever find a place to park it!!!" Another touching memory: the preacher's wife, "Honey" (Wanda Vernell Atwood) can be remembered pedaling around town - blond hair covered with a silk scarf - on her bicycle visiting the many older widowed ladies of the church.

The dedication of this project was on July 4, 1976 during America's celebration of its bicentennial. Former pastor Reese S. Howard was the guest speaker. These improvements in the church facilities amounted to over $300,000. Brother Atwood is remembered as he baptized saying, "See, here is water...what hindereth thee to be baptized?" Under Rev. Atwood's leadership hundreds of souls in Africa were reached by a zealous missionary effort. This was during the Southern Baptist Convention's BOLD MISSION Thrust.

Rev. Atwood started the Nursing Home Sunday School Services. This has been continued by Dr. Tommy Cunningham and Freeman Shell now teaches the class each Sunday.

Dr. Thomas Jefferson Cunningham, III, lovingly known as Dr. Tommy is a Bible scholar, a Bible teacher. He can be remembered by - during his sermons, saying, "THE BIBLE says". Already during his ministry with us, tasks are being accomplished. The older education wing has seen changes. In the Nursery, younger children's departments, walls have been removed, new carpet put down and these have been re-decorated. Patty Goodwin has painted a mural on the wall. New toys and equipment have been added. A Tape Ministry has been introduced, reaching out to church members unable to attend services.regularly. The church served as the center of the Red Cross activities following the two tornadoes that devastated Hamburg in April, 1979. The church office and pastors study have been enlarged and is now much more attractive and serviceable for the church needs. A Bus Ministry has begun hoping to reach the unchurched people of Hamburg and bring them to worship and to be saved. Keeping a part of the past can be found in the new church sign now being constructed on the west front corner of the church property. Bricks from the old auditorium which used to stand here are used in the base of this structure.

Perhaps the most touching, in the human interest vein, happens at the end of the Sunday morning worship services. When Dr. Tommy heads for the vestibule of the church to shake hands with the church members, his precious little dark haired, blue eyed daughter, Rebecca, takes his hand and jauntily walks along by his side.

Reminding us all of Jesus and his love for the children.. a little child shall lead them..become as little children... Isaiah 11:6, Matthew 18:10...Matthew 5:44-47, Luke 9:48,Matthew 18:3-5. As Dr. Tommy's years with us continue, other projects of service are already being talked, planned. The church debt, under his leadership, is now completely paid.

The church is many things to many people. For some is is a building, a program of activity, the pastor, a benevolence budget, or to some simply, The House of God.[1]

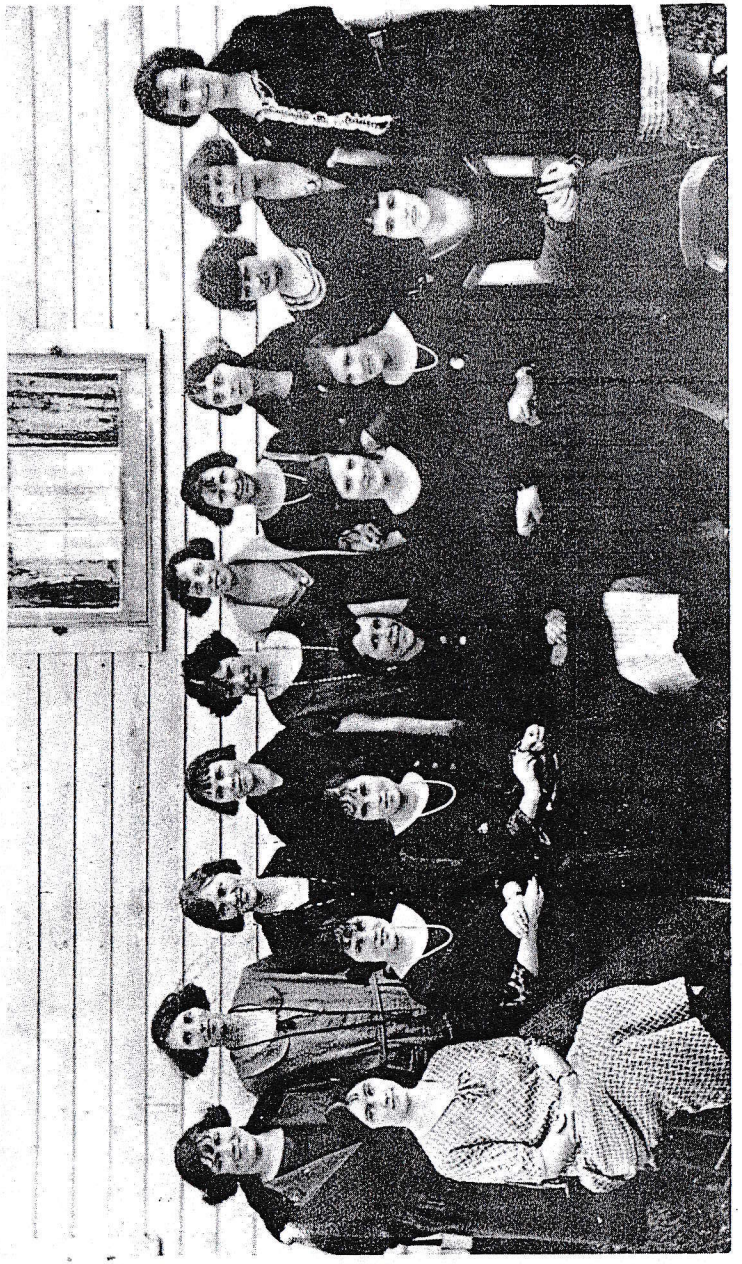
[1] Ashley County Ledger page 1B, July 1, 1976.

Christ loved the church and gave Himself for it. Our church, The First Baptist Church of Hamburg, has a great heritage. Our church is here to spread the gospel to our community. It is here as a means of fellowship and encouragement to believers. Through the church we, in Hamburg, Ashley County, Arkansas, fully realize the Great Commission.

We, God's children, are to go into each part of our world, our town reaching people...our friends, our neighbors, our acquaintances, our family members...for Jesus.

And, so in conclusion, of this updated history of the First Baptist Church of Hamburg may this group of organized believers go forward in a spirit of love and worship remembering that all things are possible if we truly love and serve fully the Lord Jesus, Our Savior.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH YOUNG WOMEN'S AUXILARY 1923 or 1924



1ST ROW L to R: Willie Mae Jones Jordan, Frances Woods Cone, Elizabeth Woods Taylor, SPONSER: Mrs.Blanche Waggoner,Millie Knight Myers,
2nd ROW L to R: Fannie Gray Moseley Linder, Marie Green Wilson, Irma Herrin Blanks, Violet Tweedy Lashway, Leon Woods McCain, Amelia Cone Wheat,
Buelah Smith Bobo, Mary Lou Lindsey Carpenter, Lena Mae Moncrief Edwards, Lydia Linder Carpenter, and Mae Locke Dunn.

For A. C. L.

There is no way to mention all the christians and church members who have loved and contributed to the progress of our church. If anyone who should be listed for special contributions has been omitted, please forgive me.

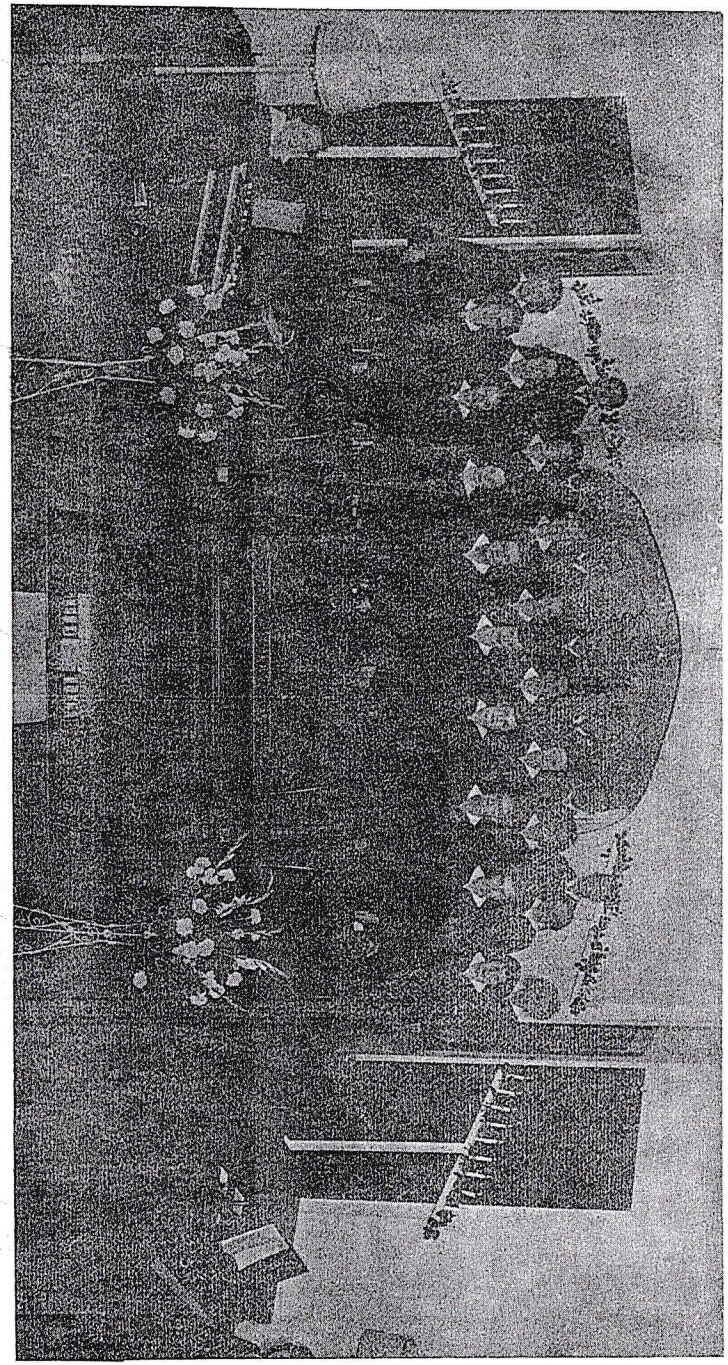
Special thanks to dear Bonnie Farmer, Bonnie and Ed Person, June Linder, Charles F. Carpenter, Marie Wilson and T. J. Cunningham and my beloved RAC.

Mary Imogene Noble Carpenter

To Jesus be the Glory

Bonnie

4/2019



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH CHOIR CHRISTMAS OF 1947 or 1948

BACK ROW L to R:Jim Linder, Dad Chapman, Horace Noble, Bob Chapman, Walter Pierce, Obie Stover, Stanley Jordan.
2nd ROW L to R : Fannie Gray Linder, Mary Lou Carpenter, Ila Noble, Mrs. John Deal, Helen Patrick, Georgia Chapman Deavida Downey, unknown , Mrs. Bufford Arrington, Irene Higginbotham.JFRONT ROW L to R : Polly Lochala, JoAnn Dunn, Martha Ford, Alphia Powell, Alma Henderson, Floriene Chapman, Estell Higginbotham, JoAnn Noble, Mrs. Cammack. PIANO: Mrs. Jordan ORGAN:, Mrs. Agnes Watson DIRECTED BY MRS. CAMMACK

'CRADLE ROLL DAY 1951

HOPE PRINTING COMPANY
ASHLEY COUNTY ARKANSAS